

**Folder 39:
Young,
S. Hall
Political
Correspondence
1916-1917**

DEC 8 - 1916

TERRITORY OF ALASKA

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

JUNEAU

November 24, 1916

P

Dr. S. Hall Young,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City

My dear Doctor Young:

I am in receipt of your letter of November 7, together with a copy of your book, "The Klondike Clan," for which I thank you. I have not yet had the opportunity to read this book, but I know that I shall enjoy it greatly. I do not know whether your portraits of Colonel DeLong and his wife are true to life or not, but I am sure they will fit in nicely. As soon as I have read the book, I will write you further concerning my opinion of it.

Now, with reference to your "Alaska Days with John Muir," received by me last fall, and which I read with much interest, I want to say that I wrote you an appreciation of it and I am surprised to learn that you did not receive it. It is simply splendid, a gem in every particular, and I have heard many people speak highly of it. If "The Klondike Clan" in any way approximates your first effort, it will be all that you should desire. Mrs. Strong has begun reading "The Klondike Clan," and I am waiting for her to finish it before I begin.

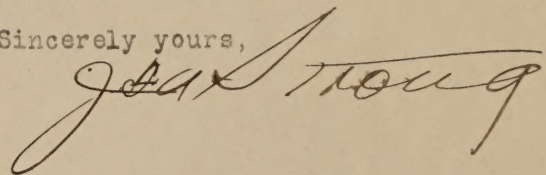
I sincerely trust that you are in your usual good health.

It is needless for me to say that I notice your mind is as healthy and active as ever.

Naturally I am much pleased with the reelection of President Wilson, and I have to thank you for your kind words, but, my dear Doctor, I do not know that I want another term. It seems to me I am getting along at that time of life when I would like a little sunshine. Here there is too much rain, and I cannot school myself into that frame of mind illustrated by the line from the song, "It's not raining rain; it's raining violets, don't you see?"

Mrs. Strong desires to be remembered to you, and with warm personal regards from both, I am,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. A. Strong". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "J. A. Strong".

March 6, 1917.

Senator Dan. Sutherland,

Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Dan: -

I am directing this to Juneau hoping it will find you. I presume that the Alaska legislature is in full blast, or will be by the time this reaches you.

I am anxious to get your opinion of my book. I have received quite a number of kind letters from Alaskans who seem to think that it is up to the present date the only authentic and authoritative history of the Klondike stampede, and that it is much more than that - a true and graphic picture of the trail and especially of the typical pioneers of Alaska. The success of the book encourages me to get to work right away on the second book of the trilogy - a story of the Nome stampede.

I am sincerely glad that Wickersham pulled through, and that we are to have him in Congress another two years. I hope you have been elected again President of the Senate. Judge Wickersham says that he fears the Agricultural College will have to wait until the territorial finances are systematized sufficiently to set the schools of the territory running smoothly, and that it may be sometime before it can be set on foot. The passing of the Bone-dry law for the territory was of such paramount importance that I shall not murmur if even so necessary an enterprise as the University of Alaska is made to halt. It will come in good time. In the meantime, if you are able to make another start

in the direction of the University during this session, I hope my name will be considered for President. Will you kindly let me know as soon as possible what the prospects are?

Very cordially yours,

March 6, 1917.

Governor J. F. A. Strong,

Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Governor:

I have been looking quite anxiously for your promised review of my book. The opinions of my Alaska friends, especially those who joined in the Great Stampede, are of more importance to me, and will be considered of more importance by the public than those of any other class of readers. I have received multitudes of very kind letters. I am sending you copies of a few of them, especially the Alaskans, not by any means as a suggestion, but to show you that I have in a small degree at least, been able to do what I have tried to do - write a book that commends itself as accurate, truthful and graphic in delineation of Alaska, the Klondike trail, and especially the big, broad fellows who "banged at the Chilcoot." The success of this book has encouraged me to begin on another one, the second of a trilogy. This will have to do with the Nome stampede, and will probably be called "The Anvil." Some of the characters will reappear in it, especially the Parson, the Colonel and his wife, and possibly Scotty. It will comprehend scenes from Kotzebue Sound to the Pribylof Islands, and up the Yukon - three lines centering on Nome. The stone-anvil on the mountain back of Nome will probably figure on the cover of the book, and will stand not only for the gold seekers and mining operations of the Nome region, with their hard knocks and strenuous welding into shape, but for the shaping of character and the molding of community and territory as well. It will have more of romance and a larger and stronger love-plot than the other. What do you think of the scheme, and of my ability to work it out?

Of course I rejoice very much in the reelection of Judge Wickersham. I

think Alaska needs him greatly in the present crisis. I hope that you will try the Governorship for another four years. You can surely stand the Juneau climate for that period again for the sake of the great good you can accomplish in the territory. Alaska needs you and Wickersham, and Secretary Lane and President Wilson - a strong team for the next four years.

I saw Dan Sutherland in New York a month ago. I have not heard yet whether he is reelected as President of the Senate, but hope that he will be. I spoke to him about the University of Alaska scheme. I presume that the passage of the prohibition law will somewhat disarrange the school system for a time, until revenues can be provided to take the place of the licenses, and I presume that these will retard the development of the University. However, I hope that the legislature with your help will make some progress during the present session in the direction of higher education for Alaska. Of course I am always in a receptive mood concerning the Presidency of the University, and without egotism I think I may say that I am well acquainted with the needs of the territory in an educational way, and with the technical work of building up such an institution as any man you would be likely to find. This position should be entirely divorced from politics, national or territorial. I would like very much to round out my services to Alaska by setting on foot a great University. Please let me know what is likely to be done along this line during the present session of the legislature.

Will you and Mrs. Strong be coming east this summer? If you do, Lassie and I are very anxious to have a good visit from you. At present we are living in a commodious rented house in South Orange, and are able and anxious to take care of our friends. You ought to see Lassie's three little girls, - they are "the best ever."

With kind regards to Mrs. Strong and yourself, I am always,

Your warm friend?

April 20, 1917.

Governor J. F. A. Strong,

Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Governor:

Yours of April 5th has been on hand a few days.

I have been ill for two or three weeks, and out of my office most of that time, but am better now.

I thank you very much for your notice of my book, and will have it inserted in the advertising leaflets and posters.

Now, as to the body of your letter. I take "The Empire" and was already boiling over with indignation about the Sulzer-Wickersham affair, and an editorial in "The Empire" of yesterday made me genuinely mad. It was the account of the action of the Democratic Committee in nominating certain people for the Governorship and leaving you out, and saying that while you did not bring your name before the Committee, you would not have been nominated had you done so.

Let me relieve my mind a little on that subject. While a great many Democrats, including yourself, have been my mutual friends, and while I admire unstintedly President Wilson in his present stand, I have never had much use for Democratic politics and now have less use for them than ever. The whole action of Sulzer and the Democratic Committee, and Judge Jennings, in stealing the Governorship away from Wickersham was about the rawest and most outrageous political manoeuver that I have ever seen. Jennings' published opinion was shallow and blatantly partisan. It was so apparently an organized effort to steal the delegateship on a technicality, that I believe if Wickersham had fought the matter in the House, your original action would have stood and Wick-

ersham would have been our delegate again as he richly deserved to be. I have not yet heard from him since Sulzer went to Washington, and I am not certain where Wickersham now is. I shall miss him and his helpful interest in my books when I go to Washington again.

Now, as to yourself. I do not think that there are one hundred men in Alaska who would not wish you to succeed yourself as Governor, and I do not believe, if the matter is properly brought before President Wilson and Secretary Lane, that the action of the Democratic Committee in Juneau would have much weight. If you will stand for the reappointment, I shall be very glad to write the President a letter and get it directly to him, as I did my letter before, setting forth my views, and those of others, of your splendid work as Governor and your fitness for the position. I can also wield a good deal of influence in Washington through the Bureau of Education, the Smithsonian Institute, and other influential sources. It would be a splendid triumph other the "machine" if the President should appoint you in the face of their recommendation.

I feel very strongly that Alaska cannot afford to lose, at this critical time, the services of the best and strongest Governor Alaska has ever had. Alaska's coast will be to defend in the present war, and her coal, copper, gold and fish will be large elements in deciding the outcome of the war. We need you and need you now. Please write me at once what you have decided and what I can do for you. I know I can organize a large force of missionaries to work for your reappointment.

Hoping to hear from you very soon, and hoping that you will "down the machine" I am, as ever,

Your friend,

MAY 11 1917

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TERRITORY OF ALASKA

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

JUNEAU

May 1, 1917,

P

Rev. S. Hall Young,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City

My dear Doctor Young:

I have just received your letter of April 20, and I want to thank you most sincerely for the expressions contained therein in my behalf. You seem to have a pretty intelligent idea of the situation that has been precipitated over the Sulzer-Wickersham contest, and I quite agree with you that the whole transaction in the seating of Sulzer and the court's compelling the canvassing board to issue a certificate to the man whom they found had not been elected was about "the rawest and most outrageous political maneuver" that has ever been pulled off, at least in Alaska. Your idea of Jennings' opinion is absolutely correct; and the opinion, or brief, of the Attorney General, was weak and impotent, partisan and one-sided in every respect.

The local Democratic machine, headed by one Thomas Donohoe, of the anti-Protestant element, is doing everything within its power, crooked and straight, but mostly crooked, to prevent my renomination. Personally, I do not much care, as I

had fully made up my mind not to ask for a reappointment, but their infamous methods, it seemed to me, have left me no other recourse, and I have accordingly written the Secretary of the Interior that if, in his judgment, my official record was such as to entitle me to a reappointment, I would accept it. To this I have not as yet received a reply. The Secretary, however, wired me the other day for all the papers relating to the Sulzer-Wickersham contest, together with my reasons for finding that Wickersham had been elected. I went into this matter in a personal letter to the Secretary, in some detail, and I believe that his view of the situation will be illuminated after he has had an opportunity to examine the records and read my letter, for I am convinced that Donohoe and others made all sorts of misrepresentations while in Washington, where Donohoe spent several weeks.

I shall, therefore, my dear doctor, greatly appreciate any assistance that you and your friends may be able to render me. I have many strong friends in Alaska, the very best people, by the way, and I believe also that I have ninety per cent of the Alaskans, without respect to political affiliations, are with me in this contest. The enemy is unscrupulous and, in my opinion, will stop at nothing short of physical assassination in order to carry out their ends.

I want to say again how grateful I am for your words and to assure you that I have given the very best that was within

me to discharging the duties of my office without fear or favor, and naturally I don't want to be downed because I have done my duty, have put principle above party interest, and thereby brought down upon me the vengeance of a little coterie of would-be politicians whose only god is contained in the words "pork and patronage." Efficiency in office to them is nothing, but partisanism of the most foolish and stupid kind seems to be the be-all and end-all of their desires.

As to Troy---well, the least said the soonest mended. He has exhibited not a yellow streak but a thorough yellowness throughout, and his action, I want to say, hurts me more than anything else, when I consider that I am responsible for him, placed him where he now is. He came to Juneau literally "on his uppers," and I gave him every opportunity to make good, and now, like the serpent, he turns and bites me.

You will have heard, no doubt, that Judge Wickersham is still in Washington, where he has entered a contest against Sulzer; and, if law and justice are followed by the elections committee of the House, I have no fear that he will not be seated. Judge Jennings' Opinion was a mere bathos and was meant for home consumption. I find that it has been printed in pamphlet form and they have sent it

out all over Alaska. And that is what it was intended for.
It is a long story, with many interesting details, but I
shall not bother you with them now.

// It is possible that I may visit Washington in the im-
mediate future, and, if so, I shall go over to New York and
see you.

With very best wishes, I am,

Cordially yours,

Arthur H. Hough

MAY 10 1917

DAN A. SUTHERLAND
FOURTH DIVISION
POORMAN

Alaska Territorial Senate

Third Session, 1917

CHAIRMAN
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND FEDERAL
RELATIONS

JUNEAU

May 7th 1917.

S. Hall Young D.D.

New York.

My Dear Dr Young:-

I am enclosing you a copy of a letter that I have today mailed to Governor Strong and I hope that he may look with favor upon your candidacy for the presidency of the new college.

I have mentioned your name in connection with the position when in conversation with Gov Strong and he feels very friendly towards you and I believe if the matter comes up to him will be for you.

There is a bad row on among the Democrats of Alaska and Jennings and Donohue of Valdez who is national committeeman are trying to land Gov Strong.

I wish if your denomination has influence with President Wilson you could induce some of your leaders to intercede with him for the people who have voted the Territory dry and try to have men appointed to office who are in sympathy with the dry cause and will see that the laws are enforced for us. I am well aware of the fact that if the laws are not enforced the people will be howling to go back to old conditions under license and it will be calamitous if we ever get the saloon back again.

I wish that the President could be made to see this as it really is and so prevent Donohue and his kind from nullifying the action of the people at the polls.

Governor Strong will be in Washington in about ten days and if you are in that section of the States he will tell you of the conditions that we are facing in Alaska just now.

Alaska Territorial Senate

Third Session, 1917

CHAIRMAN
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND FEDERAL
RELATIONS

JUNEAU

Tanner of Slagway has been appointed marshal for the Juneau Div. and the W.C.T.U. of Alaska has protested against his confirmation but I guess Donohue is strong enough to put him over.

Perhaps you could induce the head of your denomination to write to the President or better to see him in person and ask him to have in view the enforcement of the dry law when he appoints officials here in Alaska, without making any suggestions as to any individual but to let him know that Donohue is a man without principle in matters political and does not care who the appointees are as long as they are willing to do his bidding.

You must know Donohue from Valdez and can thus consistently urge that the President make careful inspection of the men he names for office. If you see Governor Strong he will tell you of some of Donohue's work since he has been national committeeman.

With best regards I am,

Yours Sincerely,

Dan Sutherland

MAY 16 1917

DAN A. SUTHERLAND
FOURTH DIVISION
POORMAN

Alaska Territorial Senate

Third Session, 1917

JUNEAU

CHAIRMAN
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND FEDERAL
RELATIONS

May 7th, 1917.

Honorable J. F. A. Strong,

Governor of the Territory of Alaska,

Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Governor Strong:--

Now that the establishment of the Agricultural College and School of Mines is assured, I take this opportunity to suggest to you that when the time comes for choosing the faculty of the institution the name of that very practical and scholarly Alaskan, Rev. W. Hall Young, D. D., should be considered for the position of President.

It would seem to me entirely fitting that Dr. Young should be selected to fill that high position by reason of his long years of service in the Territory, his wide acquaintance with its people and his knowledge of their character gained by years of pioneering with the people who came to and remained in the Northland.

Furthermore, his scholarly attainments are such as to recommend him for the position even if he were not an Alaskan of Alaskans, while his literary successes of recent years must add materially to his reputation in literary and educational circles; I can conceive of no better method of standardizing this institution and enhancing its reputation at the beginning than by selecting as its executive head the gentle companion and friend of John Muir.

I met Dr. Young while in New York last winter

Alaska Territorial Senate

Third Session, 1917

JUNEAU

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RELATIONS

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Hon. J. F. S.

and he is the same genial christian gentleman who crossed the
passes and navigated the Yukon in the days of the Argonaut, nor
does his wonderful vitality seem to be impaired in the slightest
degree. He is greatly interested in this institution of learning
and has been ever since its establishment was first suggested some
years ago, and I feel sure that to be selected as the first Dean
of this institution would be considered by the Doctor as the
crowning honor of his Alaskan career.

I trust that when the time comes for selecting
the official head of the college you may see your way clear to
recommend for the consideration of the Board of Trustees to be
appointed by you the name of Dr. S. Hall Young.

I am,

Yours most sincerely,

Dan Sutherland.

May 12, 1917.

Governor J. F. A. Strong,

Juneau, Alaska.

Dear Governor,

Yours of May 1st is just received, and I have written Secretary Lane and enclose a copy of the letter. If you think it wise I shall write President Wilson direct, and get the letter to him by means of a mutual friend as I did my letter to him before. However, Mr. Lane who is a Presbyterian Elder, will perhaps be the best medium through whom to reach the President.

Anything more that I can do either by a personal visit to Washington, or by letter, I shall be very glad to do. I shall do what I can also to help Wickersham to retain his seat.

When you come to Washington, please communicate with me at once and I very strongly hope that you and Mrs. Strong can make Lassie and me a good long visit. We are at present residing at South Orange, an hour's trip from New York. June 1st we expect to move to our summer cottage by the seashore at Fair Haven, New Jersey, where we spent last summer. If you can spend a number of days with us we can have a good, high-old Alaska time and you can take a good rest.

I am sorry to say that Captain Kleinschmidt is not living with his family, and has developed traits such as make me feel that you were entirely right when, at the time of the marriage, you expressed your surprise that I was giving my refined and lovely daughter to "that Dutch Boor." He is very much like his fellow Prussian, the Kaiser, and through his brutality and unscrupulousness I can understand the same traits in the Germans.

With warm regards to Mrs. Strong and yourself, I am
as ever your friend,

May 16, 1917.

Senator Dan. Sutherland,

Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Mr. Sutherland,

Your letter of the 7th instant enclosing copy of your splendid letter to Governor Strong of the same date, is at hand today. As Doctor Young has already started for the General Assembly which meets at Dallas, Texas, they are being forwarded by this mail for his attention.

He may not have time to write from Dallas in acknowledgement of your kind letter, but be assured he will take the first opportunity to do so.

Very sincerely yours,

JUN 4 1917

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TERRITORY OF ALASKA

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

JUNEAU

May 24, 1917

P

Rev. S. Hall Young,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City

My dear Doctor Young:

I have your letter of May 12, together with a copy of your letter to Secretary Lane.

In reply let me say that I greatly appreciate your letter to Mr. Lane and the kindly, unselfish interest that you are taking in my behalf. The local clique is making a strong fight to prevent my reappointment, but whether they will be successful or not, of course, I cannot say at this time. After dropping Jennings, Troy, Whittlesey and Griffin, they have now pushed Thomas Riggs, Jr., a member of the Alaskan Engineering Commission, as you know, forward as a candidate for Governor to succeed me. Riggs has stated that he will accept with the permission of Secretary Lane.

I have not heard from the Secretary in several weeks, but may do so at almost any time. I last night wired for a leave of absence for sixty days, but have not as yet received a reply thereto. Should my request be complied with, I shall probably go east immediately and, of course, we will

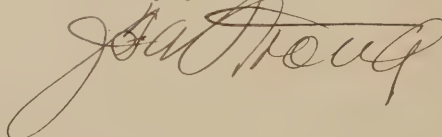
see you and Lassie and the children, but whether we will be able to spend any time with you will have to be subsequently determined. Rest assured that both Mrs. Strong and myself would be delighted to visit you for a few days.

I am sorry, but not surprised, about what you tell me concerning Captain Kleinschmidt. Will you give Lassie our love and sympathy?

Should I go to Washington I will communicate with you at once, and it may be that I will ask you to come over and do a little work in my behalf. Of course, I am all "up in the air" as to what is transpiring in Washington in this particular respect.

And now, with very best wishes, I am,

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. A. Thompson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "J. A. Thompson".

June 1st, 1917.

Honorable J. F. A. Strong,
Governor of Alaska,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Governor,

I have just returned from the annual meeting of our General Assembly which convened this time at Dallas, Texas. I had received your letter of May 1st just before starting on this trip, and did not know just where to write you, as you stated your purpose of leaving for Washington very shortly when you wrote your letter. However, I sent you a letter on a venture to Juneau, and enclosed a copy of a letter I wrote to Secretary Lane on your behalf. I am now writing to you at Washington in care of the Department of the Interior, in hopes of finding you speedily and getting a visit with you.

I see by the Juneau "Empire" of a late date, that the political ring at Juneau are doing all they can to deprive you of your deserved reappointment. The officers of our Mission Board, in my absence, received letters from Dr. Gondit and others, asking them to do all they can on your behalf, and they have promptly and cheerfully complied with these requests. I am anxious to know what more I can do. If it would be helpful I could go down to Washington and personally interview Secretary Lane or President Wilson.

I have received a letter from Dan Sutherland dated May 7th at Juneau, enclosing a letter which I wrote to you of the same date, urging my appointment to the position of President of the newly established "Agricultural College and School of Mines of Alaska." I am rather in the dark in regard to just the

manner of this institution; the method of appointment of its president and professors; the money available; the constitution and plans of its Board of Directors; the salary of the president, etc. From Sutherland's letter to you I infer that you have the appointing of the Board of Trustees, which in turn has the appointing of the President. I presume he would have the election of his faculty. Will you kindly give me all the information you can, and also tell me frankly and fully what my chances are for this position. Of course I am anxious to get back to my beloved territory and labor again for its interest, and there could be no better rounding out of my long term in the service of the territory than to set on foot what must in time be one of the great Universities of the northwest.

Should I be appointed, and should there be available funds for such expenses, I would like to spend several months in visiting the agricultural schools and Universities of the middle and far west, and inform myself fully of their organization and of what would be required in a President of such an institution. I need not recount to you my qualifications for this position; my education as farmer and college man, and my acquaintance with all parts of Alaska and its needs.

Lassie and I, and her children, are living at present in South Orange, New Jersey, 45 minutes from my office here. We expect to leave June 15th for a summer cottage which we have secured at Fair Haven, N.J. We would be delighted to have a visit from yourself and Mrs. Strong at either place.

A letter from Judge Wickersham three weeks ago, intimated that he was about to leave Washington for awhile for the Pacific Coast. I suppose his fight and yours are proceeding merrily along parallel lines, and I hope you will both soundly thrash the machines.

Give my warm regards to Mrs. Strong and let me hear from you very soon.

Faithfully yours,

June 4, 1917.

Honorable J. F. A. Strong,
Governor of Alaska,
Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Governor,

I have just received your letter of May 24th from Juneau. I am enclosing to you a copy of the letter that I wrote you a few days ago addressed in care of the Interior Department at Washington City. I supposed from your former letter that you would be there. I do not wish to have the letter delayed, hence I send the duplicate.

I am prepared to swing a decided and strong influence from this office in your favor, if you think anything additional to what I have already done, and what the office has done, would be wise. Also I have just received a letter from Dr. Condit, an extract from which I enclose. In regard to his suggestions, I wish to say, that I have written a letter (a copy of which I enclosed to you) to Secretary Lane, and Dr. Thompson some time ago wrote a letter in Governor Strong's behalf to President Wilson, and we are all ready to swing our whole influence decidedly in your favor. We fear Tumulty's influence in a Catholic line over the President. Tumulty has generally been pretty quiet on denominational lines, but we know him to be a very ardent Catholic and fear that he would in a quiet way influence the President. We do not fear his influence over Secretary Lane. It would certainly be a lasting disgrace to the Wilson administration if the schemes of that disreputable gang of political and saloon supporters at Juneau should succeed in downing you and Wickersham.

I am anxiously awaiting your reply to my questions about the college residency, and hope that we can soon get in touch with one another. I can go to Washington almost any time from now on, and remain as long as I can be useful. I can also go with the backing of our whole mission force.

Lassie and I are hoping for a visit from you and Mrs. Strong when you
come east.

Very cordially yours,

June 4, 1917.

Honorable James Wickersham,
House Office 167,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Judge,

I have just returned from the meeting of our General Assembly at Dallas, Texas. Your letter of May 13th arrived during my absence. I note that you say you expected to start west in about two weeks. I am drawing this bow at a venture, and it may have to follow you to Alaska. However, from the interesting debates that are going on in Congress I rather think you will still be there.

A letter just received from Governor Strong reports that he is still hung up at Juneau awaiting advices from the Secretary of the Interior. It appears that the Bonebrake-Tryg-Jennings gang have shifted to Riggs for Governor, and are pushing him for Strong's place. A letter also came from Dr. Condit, our General Missionary at Juneau, which says that Riggs is also a Catholic, and that the whole gang are anti-prohibition and are trying to defeat or evade the prohibition laws of Alaska. Of course it is essential to the success of their schemes to get you and Governor Strong both out of the way. I wish you would tell me just what more I can do to help defeat the schemes of this disreputable gang.

I am enclosing to you a copy of the letter which I received from Paul Sutherland, also a copy of one he wrote to Governor Strong about my appointment as President of the Alaska College. Of course I am anxious to get that position if it measures up in opportunity and future prospects with what we hope to attain. Tell me what you know about it.

I shall be free to go down to Washington almost any time now if I can be of use. I shall also expect a visit from you and Mrs. Wickersham if you come to New York.

Yours for a clean, sober and progressive Alaska,

June 11, 1917.

Honorable J. F. A. Strong,
Governor of Alaska,
C/o Interior Department, Washington, D.C.

My dear Governor,

I have written you several letters since I last heard from you, enclosing in one of them a copy of the letter which I wrote in your behalf to Secretary Lane. I sent duplicates of this to Juneau and also to Washington, in care of the Interior Department.

I have just written a letter to President Wilson, a copy of which I enclose. I am sending this through Dr. Halsey of our Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, a classmate and intimate friend of President Wilson. He got my letter to the President four years ago, and assures me that he will send this one in a personal letter of his, so that President Wilson will get it and read it.

Please let me hear from you as soon as possible, and tell me what more I can do in your behalf, and how things look at Washington. I see by the Juneau "Empire" just received, that Wickersham is holding up the confirmation of Judge Jennings reappointment, and it is intimated in the paper that you are backing him. Is this the case? My opinion is, that while Jennings' opinion in the election case was narrow and partisan, that your entering into Wickersham's fight against Jennings would only complicate your own fight without doing anybody much good. Is there any way of preventing the reappointment of the Marshall and District Attorney of the Fourth District? There are two bad, dishonest and injurious men who ought to be fired!

Lassie and I move this week to our summer cottage at Fair Haven, N.J. It is one of those India-rubber affairs that can be stretched indefinitely, and there is always room and a warm welcome in it for our friends. We hope you and Mrs. Strong will pay us at least a short visit - the longer the better.

I am comparatively foot free now, and could run down to Washington for a few days almost any time if I am needed.

Give my regards to Mrs. Strong. I do not know where you are stopping, hence address this in care of the Department.

Cordially your friend,

June 21, 1917.

Governor J. F. A. Strong,
"The Raleigh,"
Washington, D.C.

My dear Governor:

Your letter was delayed in reaching me for two or three days by my absence from the office.

I am not surprised but very indignant, that the machine politicians have been making it so unpleasant for you. I firmly believe, however, that you will get your reappointment. I hardly think that President Wilson will disregard the earnest wishes of his old-time friends connected with the church he served so long, and his classmates and friends of Princeton. The names of Dr. Halsey, and Dr. Thompson, to say nothing of my own, ought to carry some weight, besides you have a backing from friends in Alaska and the Pacific Coast that the other candidate cannot possibly have.

I see by "The Empire" that Judge Jennings has been confirmed. This may hurt Wickersham's chances, but I cannot see how it will hurt you.

Lassie and I shall be delighted to see you and Mrs. Strong when you arrive, and hope you will be able to come out to Fair Haven and rest a few days at least by the seashore. We can give you some old-fashioned canoeing and new-fashioned bathing. Please let me know when you will arrive in New York, and where I can meet you.

You have not answered my question about the Presidency of the College, its status, plans, prospects, etc. Perhaps that all depends on your reappointment.

With remembrances from Lassie and me to Mrs. Strong and yourself, and hoping to hear from you again very soon, I am as ever,

Your friend,

JUL 12 1917

Form 1207 P

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Fast Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	
Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE TELEGRAM WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FAST DAY MESSAGE.	

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Receiver's No.
Check
Time Filed

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms
on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

To Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D. July 10 1917

Street and No. 156. Fifth Ave. New York

Place On Train from Washington

Dear Dr. Young - We are on our way to the Coast, having left Washington this evening. As to my re-appointment, all I know is that it has not been made, and I am doubtful if it will. Lane seems to me to be playing politics. And I cannot understand his attitude. Assuring me that he was my friend, he advised me to see the President. I tried to, but was unable to do so; it may be that Mr. Tamm had not desired me to see him. As a matter of fact

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WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

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Receiver's No.

Check

Time Filed

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms
on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

191

To _____

Street and No. _____

Place _____

It is difficult, I understand, for anyone
to see the President. So I merely got tired
of waiting around hat in hand, for some-
thing to happen, and I am returning
to Alaska, where I shall do my
waiting, until I or my successor is
appointed. The Senate Committee on
Territories is favorable to me, I believe,
but, as stated, I cannot account for
Lans and the President.

I shall write you more fully later.

Regards from Mrs. Amy & Lane and
Young, and love very best

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Fast Day Message	☐
Day Letter	☐
Night Message	☐
Night Letter	☐

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE TELEGRAM WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FAST DAY MESSAGE.

WESTERN UNION



TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Receiver's No.

Check

Time Filed

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms
on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

191

To _____

Street and No. _____

Place _____

*Columbus, Iowa**Success**John H. King**P.S. Will be in Des Moines for a day or**two at the Empire Hotel*

July 13, 1917.

Governor J. F. A. Strong,
Frye Hotel,
Seattle, Washington.

My dear Governor,

Your letter came to the office while I was absent on a short trip to Ohio. I am very sorry indeed that you did not get your appointment before leaving, but think you are unnecessarily despondent.

I see by The Empire of July 3rd, that your enemies are raining in to Washington protests against your reappointment and recommendations for Riggs. I hope you will by telegraph and letter arouse your friends to a like or greater activity, and let me know by wire or letter what I can further do at this end.

Please give my regards to Mrs. Strong, and hoping, yes, praying that the President will do the right and wise thing for Alaska by promptly reappointing you, I am,

As ever, your friend,

Dictated but not signed.

TERRITORY OF ALASKA

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

JUNEAU

August 9, 1917

P

Rev. S. Hall Young, D. D.,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City

My dear Doctor Young:

We arrived home on July 25, having spent a day each in Chicago and St. Paul, and found things in Juneau about as usual. The town is very quiet, however, due in part to the disaster which overtook the Treadwell mine last April. Politically, the gang is still active and doing its best to accomplish its crooked ends, as well might be expected of crooked people. In Seattle I had a nice talk with Reverend Doctor Matthews, who is a friend of mine and who kindly introduced himself in my behalf. I have heard nothing from Washington since leaving there, except on routine matters. Mr. Meyer, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, came up on the same boat with us from Seattle, and we entertained him during the evening. He and his party of three also became members of the Juneau Camp of the Arctic Brotherhood. They are now at Anchorage.

It is stated by Donohoe that, finding they could not move Secretary Lane against me, they took the matter over his head and it now rests with the President, which fact, Donohoe added, was the first ray of sunlight they had had. How much truth or falsity is in this statement, of course, I do not know. The

people of Alaska generally are incensed at the action of these crooks, but, as you know, there is a good deal of apathy at times among the people of Alaska, who seem to accept things and conditions in a fatalistic sort of spirit. I do not know of anything else that can be done in my behalf, but if it should occur to you that there is anything, or to your friends, it is needless for me to say that I should greatly appreciate it.

The people of the second judicial division and Nome have stood by me loyally; and, during a recent visit of Grigsby, the Attorney-General, to that place, he met with a very cool reception, and his attempt to secure a condemnation of me from the Democratic Club met with an overwhelming defeat. I am advised that he returned to Juneau much disgruntled, and that were he before the people of that section again for office, he would receive but a very small vote outside of the saloon people.

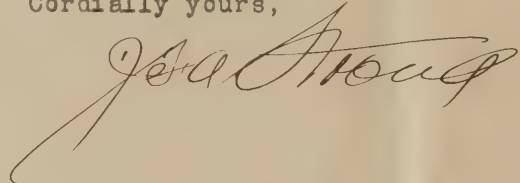
I trust that you and Lassie and the children are in good health. Kindly remember us to them.

By the way, I am today appointing the board of regents for the Agricultural College and School of Mines at Fairbanks. The make-up will be about as follows: Mrs. L. C. Hess, A. R. Heilig, R. C. Wood, H. B. Parkin, A. C. Nordale, L. F. Shaw of Anchorage, Phil Ernst of Nome, and Dr. L. S. Keller of Skagway. The personnel of the Fairbanks membership was recommended by the fourth division delegation in the legislature.

It is possible that I may make one change before announcing the appointments which will be done tomorrow. I understand that work on the university buildings will be initiated next year and completed.

I know of nothing else of interest at this time. I shall be glad to hear from you at any time, and with very best wishes, in which Mrs. Strong joins, I am,

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Strong". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "John Strong".

September 10, 1917.

Governor J. F. A. Strong,

Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Governor:

Your last letter has been by me some time unanswered. I see by The Empire that they are fighting you, and using the most outrageous means to down you.

I have just dictated another letter to the President, a copy of which I enclose to you, and am getting it to him through the same channel of which I told you, Dr. Halsey, Secretary of our Board of Foreign Missions, a classmate of President Wilson. I hope it will have some influence in bringing him to a quick decision.

I was quite interested in the Board of Trustees whom you have appointed for the "Agricultural College and School of Mines." I am afraid that only a few of them would be favorable to my election as President. In what way should my candidacy be brought before them? I would much prefer some one else to introduce my name and qualifications, but if you think it wise, I shall send a personal letter to each member of the Board giving my experience and my plans concerning the school in case I am selected. I would like to round out my long service to Alaska in this way. However, if another is chosen, I shall not worry, for I have a position here which I can probably keep as long as I wish, and it is a position of great usefulness to the territory and people of Alaska.

Lassie and the Kiddies and I have greatly enjoyed our summer in our cottage by the sea; were bathing and canoeing every day. The rest has much improved my health, and I feel better than I have for more than

a year. I am launching a vigorous campaign for mission funds and shall have added work and responsibility during the coming year. Everything is "war" here - soldiers parading, the women working for the Red Cross, Preachers preaching patriotic sermons, etc., etc. Wish I were young enough to go to the front, or that I had a son to send.

"The Kaiser", as we call F.K. has not bothered us much this summer, - has been only once or twice for the children, and brought them back after one night's absence. He is now at Newport News, Va. aviating. That is a government station, and I think F.K. is only learning the business. Of course I am not wicked enough to wish anything to happen, but the very best thing he could do for his family would be to make some of the same false and foolish movements in the air as he has made while on terra firma.

Let your friends in Alaska keep sending in their petitions and letters to the President.

Give my love to Mrs. Strong, and let me hear from you very soon.

Cordially your friend,

11 5 11

TERRITORY OF ALASKA

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

JUNEAU

Sept. 22, 1917

P

Rev. S. Hall Young,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City

My dear Doctor Young:

I have your letter of September 10 and was glad to hear from you again. Yes, the Empire and the little gang of miserable Prussians are fighting me the dirtiest they know how. They seem to be in desperate straits and, of course, their chief stock in trade is lying and the dissemination of lies. Of course, a liar is always a very foolish person, as the following will illustrate.

A few days ago I removed one Joseph A. Snow as special employee for the suppression of the liquor traffic among the natives--first, because he was incompetent, and, second, because I found him to be utterly disloyal and standing in with the gang that was opposing me. I appointed a far better man to the place, an old and tried Democrat of many years' residence in Alaska, and Troy immediately wired such other newspapers as would take it that I had removed a loyal Democrat and appointed a Wickersham Democrat. It is such stuff as this that rebounds upon the lying gang. That this gang can Prussianize the democracy of Alaska and, incidentally, a portion of the people of Alaska, I am exceedingly doubtful.

This is not a popular time for Prussian methods and certainly not in Alaska.

Pardon me for getting this out of my system. I am deeply grateful for the letter that you sent to the President through Doctor Halsey. My friends have been active in my behalf and in the last several weeks, the Pioneers of Alaska have interested themselves in my case and a number of the Igloos have wired strong endorsements of me to the President and Secretary Lane. In the meantime, all I can do is to wait. Personally, I do not care for a reappointment. This I may say frankly, and I would not have asked for a reappointment but for the dirty fight that has been made upon me. This having been the case, I considered it a duty I owed to my friends to "see it through," as Mr. Britling would say.

Now, as to the agricultural college. I have received the resignation of Mr. H. B. Parkin, and if you have a friend in Fairbanks or vicinity that you would like to have appointed on the board, if you will write me, I will name him. This, of course, is to be considered strictly confidential. There will be nothing done with regard to building the agricultural college this year, and it is doubtful if much will be accomplished next year, owing to the high cost of building materials, etc. However, I am not advised as to this, but in any event, the college will not be ready for business before 1919 at the

earliest. Therefore, there will be ample time to consider your desires in the matter. Of course, I shall be only too glad to do everything that I can to further your interests either now or at any future time.

I note what you say about the "Kaiser." Well, you express my sentiments, and I could not add anything to their brevity and terseness.

I trust that Lassie and the children are well, and with very kindest regards to yourself and Lassie from Mrs. Strong and myself, I am,

Cordially and sincerely yours,

John Strong

October 3, 1917.

Governor J. P. A. Strong,
Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Governor Strong,

Arthur E. Clark is applying through Mr. Belmore Browne, for the appointment of Game Warden in the McKinley Park district, and his brother, T. C. Clark, a friend of ours who is now working for the Government here in New York, asks me to write about Clark's qualification for the position. Mr. Browne, you know, was in the Parker party in their ascent of Mt. McKinley, and has written a very enchanting book about the expedition. Clark's party took care of Brown and his party, and extended them hospitality. Mr. Clark was for six or seven years in that region, has hunted all sorts of game successfully and knows that region about as well as almost any other man. He is a reliable man, has a good wife, and would, I think, make an excellent Game Warden.

Anything you can do for Mr. Clark, would be appreciated by,

Your friend,

October 5, 1917.

Governor J. F. A. Strong,

Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Governor Strong,

Yours of September 22nd is just at hand, and I was very glad to hear from you. The "Gang" at Juneau is surely employing every disreputable trick that they can invent to attack you, but I believe President Wilson is untouched by their schemes, and that the delay is simply on account of the tremendous pressure of duties now crowding him.

Mr. L. F. Shaw, former editor of "The Seward Gateway" and of "The Anchorage Times" is now in New York, and he and his wife recently spent a couple of days with my daughter and me at Fair Haven, N.J. Mr. Shaw is thoroughly loyal to you, and has been doing all he can for your reappointment. He says that the great majority of Democrats around Anchorage are for you as well as those of other parties, and that only those who have been in with the gang are opposing you.

The incident you relate as having just occurred, and Troy's action in it, are of a piece with their other tactics.

I have not heard directly from the President in answer to my letter, only from Tumulty, that the matter would be brought to the President's attention as soon as possible. I am growing in confidence that you are going to get your reappointment all right. It may be that the President will leave matters just as they are until the reassembling of Congress at its regular session. There are a good many other appointments that he has left until that session.

As to the Agricultural College, I am interested in what you say, and thank you for your confidence. If it would not be considered a partisan thing, I would nominate Rev. Wallace Sutton Marple, the present pastor of our church in Fairbanks, as a good man in Mr. Parkins place. Nerland is a good friend of mine, and I think would favor my appointment. Nearly all of my old friends have left Fairbanks. Please let me know whether Mr. Marple would be acceptable.

I have received a substantial raise in my salary in the office here, and renewed power in my work. Lassie and I can get along more comfortably for the present. The suit for separation and maintenance, will be pushed next May or June. The "Kaiser" is still, we suppose, at Newport News in the Aviation Camp. He has recently come to New York and had the children for a day's outing. He is keeping very quiet.

Mr. Shaw will stand strongly for my appointment for the Presidency of the College, but feels that his place of residence removes him far from the rest of the Board. However, he will do what he can for me. I do not see Ben Sutherland's name on the Board of Trustees. Would he not be a good one to put in place of Mr. Parkins, or do you desire to appoint Democrats entirely?

Yesterday I witnessed the most inspiring parade I have ever seen. 20,000 Red Cross nurses. It was a beautiful and very impressive spectacle.

With warm regards to yourself and wife, I am

Very sincerely yours,

DEC 13 1917

TERRITORY OF ALASKA

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

JUNEAU

November 30, 1917

P

Rev. S. Hall Young, D. D.,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City

My dear Doctor Young:

I have just received your letter of November 21, written at Warren, Ohio, but am sending this to your New York address with the expectation that you will have returned there by the time this letter reaches your New York office.

I note that you have been in the West in an effort to secure mission funds, and I have no doubt it is, as you say, a herculean task, especially now when the people of the United States are being called upon from all directions of the compass and for many different purposes.

The Board of Trustees of the Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines is composed of the following, there being one vacancy, that of the Nome member, who did not qualify, and I have not as yet filled the vacancy:

R. C. Wood, Fairbanks
A. R. Heilig, Fairbanks
Mrs. Luther C. Hess, Fairbanks
L. F. Shaw, Anchorage
Dr. L. S. Keller, Skagway
J. A. McIntosh, Fairbanks
A. C. Nordale, Fairbanks

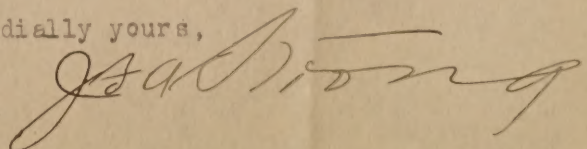
I am glad to note that you are going to make a tour of Alaska next summer. I am sure that by returning to your old stamping ground and renewing former friendships and acquaintances, coupled with the outing which I think you very much need, you should benefit by the trip in every way, and, without doubt, you will be able to pick up a good deal of data for your new book, which I am sure will be most interesting and should be a great success..

You can reach Judge Wickersham by addressing him at the House of Representatives Office Building, Washington, D. C. I think the number of the room which he still occupies is 169, but of this I am not quite sure. In any event, the address as given will find him. I have not heard from Judge Wickersham, except indirectly, for a long time, but I understand that he is confident of winning his contest for the Delegate seat.

Mr. Sulzer was in Juneau recently, peddling a lot of political buncombe which would make even a very crude politician weep. I have not had any recent word from Washington, but am ready to accept anything that may happen. If the Administration is playing politics, I am not in it; if not, there will probably be some hope.

With very best wishes to yourself and Lassis and the children, in which Mrs. Strong joins, I am,

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. A. Strong". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "J. A. Strong".

